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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,803	07/31/2003	Shiro Sakiyama	60188-601	9765

7590 11/20/2006

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EXAMINER

TAT, BINH C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2825

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/630,803	Applicant(s) SAKIYAMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Binh C. Tat	Art Unit 2825	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-9 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to application 10/630803 file on 06/19/02.

Claims 1-6 remain pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 1 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The recited limitations “voltage value information which is given to at least one of a plurality of data terminals composed of input and output terminals included in the basic circuit and in which different voltage states of one node are represented in multiple bits” and “logical information between the input and output terminals including one or more said data terminals having the voltage value information” are just abstract ideas. The claim limitations do not specifically disclose how to use a cell library database. Thus the claim invention has no concrete result.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Art Unit: 2825

2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Furutani et al. (US Patent 6551846).

3. As to claim 1, Furutani et al. teach a cell library database composed of basic circuits of multiple types implementing various logics, the database containing: voltage value information which is given to at least one of a plurality of data terminals composed of input and output terminals included in the basic circuit and in which different voltage states of one node are represented in multiple bits (see fig 25-28 col 1 line 45 to col 2 line 60 and col 4 line 13 to col 5 line 64 and fig 5-7 12-18 col 11 line 35 to col 13 line 42); and logical information between the input and output terminals including one or more said data terminals having the voltage value information (see fig 5, fig 7, fig 8-13 col 11 line 36 to col 14 line 24).

4. As to claim 2, Furutani et al. teach wherein the data terminal having the voltage value information represented in multiple bits is a power source terminal (see fig 25-28 col 1 line 45 to col 2 line 60 and col 4 line 13 to col 5 line 64).

5. As to claim 3, Furutani et al. teach wherein the data terminal having the voltage value information represented in multiple bits is a digital input terminal or a digital output terminal see fig 25-28 col 1 line 45 to col 2 line 60 and col 4 line 13 to col 5 line 64 and fig 5-7 12-18 col 11 line 35 to col 13 line 42).

6. As to claim 4, Furutani et al. teach wherein the data terminal having the voltage value information represented in multiple bits is an analog input terminal or an analog output terminal see fig 25-28 col 1 line 45 to col 2 line 60 and col 4 line 13 to col 5 line 64 and fig 5-7 12-18 col 11 line 35 to col 13 line 42 and summary).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh C. Tat whose telephone number is 571 272-1908. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 - 4:00 (M-F).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chaing can be reached on 571 272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Binh Tat
Art unit 2825
November 11, 2006

Ungando
THUAN-DD
Primary examiner -
11/13/06